Remarks/Arguments

Claim 10 is cancelled without prejudice and disclaimer. For the reasons discussed in applicant's previous response, applicant submits that previous claim 10 is patentably distinguishable over the teachings of Sanpei. However, to move the prosecution of this application forward, applicant has cancelled claim 10. Claims 1-6 stand allowed.

In view of the above, it is believed that this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly then, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's attorney at (609) 734-6815, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

Respectfully submitted, Achuthan Srikumkar

By: Paul P. Kiel

Attorney for Applicant Reg. No. 40,677

Phone (609) 734-6815

Patent Operations
Thomson Licensing Inc.
P.O. Box 5312
Princeton, New Jersey 08543-5312

October 12, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment after Final, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

)oto

Date